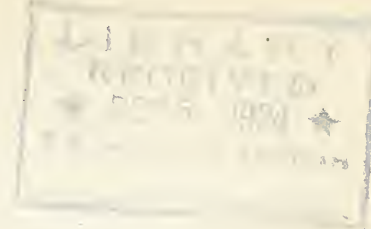


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THE EXTENSION HORTICULTURIST

December 1, 1924.



*
* The old standard varieties of apples are still *
* the commercial ones as reported by the extension, col- *
* lege, and experiment station horticulturists in 35 out *
* of the 36 commercial apple-producing states in this *
* country. It is a little surprising that none of the *
* newer varieties are displacing the old standard sorts. *

* This number of the "Extension Horticulturist" *
* includes the paper on Commercial Apple Varieties given *
* by Prof. C. P. Close during the recent meeting of the *
* American Pomological Society. *

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Office of Horticultural Investigations
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U. S. Department of Agriculture
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Commercial Apple Varieties.

There has been a fine response from the extension horticulturists to our request for lists of commercial varieties of fruits. The lists of commercial apples included therein were used by Prof. C. P. Close in preparing an address given before the American Pomological Society in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on November 12, 1924. The address follows and it is to be noted that the old varieties are still the commercial ones recommended and that only one of the newer varieties, and that for one state only, is mentioned.

Progress in commercial fruit growing means creation and elimination, creation of new and better varieties and elimination of all but the very best. It is well that our tastes and conditions differ somewhat or all growers would produce the same variety and all consumers would eat the same variety. As it is the growers grab every new variety in sight and the consumers buy mostly on color.

No argument is necessary to convince us that too many commercial varieties of apples are being grown. In the September, 1923, issue of "Better Fruit" there are 55 varieties of apples listed in the color requirements list for the Pacific Northwest, 4 of these being summer varieties and 51 fall and winter varieties. Here are 41 varieties of the 51 which are a detriment to the fruit industry. They cause confusion in picking, grading, packing, loading, selling, book keeping, etc. Happily, the college, experiment station and extension horticulturists are busy not only in the Northwest, but throughout the country in inducing growers to limit their apple varieties to the fewest standard commercial sorts.

It was through the hearty cooperation of the state horticultural men just mentioned that the following discussion on varieties was made possible. The varieties recommended for any state are those given by the extension fruit specialist or a college or station horticulturist of that state. The speaker takes pleasure in giving credit to these men at this time for furnishing the recommended lists of their states.

There are at least 36 states which grow apples commercially although three or four are not heavy producers. Of these 36 states only California has not sent in a list so is not included in this discussion.

Beginning with the northeastern states of Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts and including New York, the McIntosh, Baldwin and Wealthy are the only varieties recommended for the whole section. Delicious is given for all but New Hampshire and New York; Northern Spy is mentioned for all but Connecticut and Massachusetts; Wagener for New York, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut; Oldenburg for Massachusetts and Connecticut; Gravenstein for Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts; Rhode Island Greening for Maine, Vermont and New York; Tompkins King and Twenty Ounce for New York; and Northwestern Greening, Tolman, Fameuse and Banana for Vermont.



In the next group of Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, and Ohio, the Stayman Winesap, Delicious, Jonathan and Grimes Golden are mentioned for all; Oldenburg for all but Pennsylvania; Rome Beauty and Northern Spy for all but Maryland; York Imperial for West Virginia and Pennsylvania but doubtful in Maryland; Wealthy for West Virginia and Ohio; Baldwin for West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Ohio; and Rhode Island Greening for West Virginia and Ohio. Besides these Smokehouse, McIntosh and Stark are mentioned for Pennsylvania; Black Ben and Hubbardston for West Virginia; and Banana, Golden Delicious, Gallia Beauty, Red Rome and Ensee for Ohio. Of the summer varieties Yellow Transparent is mentioned for West Virginia; Yellow Transparent and Williams for Maryland; and Yellow Transparent and Maiden Blush for Ohio.

Delaware, New Jersey and Virginia all approve of seven varieties, namely: Yellow Transparent, Oldenburg, Grimes Golden, Jonathan, Stayman Winesap, Rome Beauty and Paragon. Besides these, Williams, York Imperial and Winesap are mentioned for Delaware; Starr, Wealthy, McIntosh, Delicious and Stark for New Jersey; and King David, Virginia Beauty, Yellow Newtown, Winesap, Delicious, York Imperial and Ben Davis for Virginia.

In the southeastern group of states including North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and Kentucky, the Delicious, Winesap and Stayman Winesap are recommended for all. Rome Beauty is mentioned for Georgia, North Carolina and Kentucky; Paragon or Mammoth Black Twig for North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia; Grimes Golden for Kentucky and Tennessee; Yellow Transparent for Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee; Early Harvest for South Carolina and Tennessee and Yates for South Carolina and Georgia. The other varieties for these states are King David for Kentucky; Oldenburg and York Imperial for Tennessee; Red June, Williams and Bonum for North Carolina; Wilson Red June for South Carolina; and Arkansas Black, Ben Davis, Kinnard and Terry for Georgia.

In Indiana, Illinois and the lower peninsula of Michigan only Jonathan and Grimes Golden are recommended for all three states. Although adjoining, these states seem adapted to quite different varieties. Wealthy is approved for Illinois and Michigan; and Rome Beauty; Stayman Winesap, Oldenburg, and Yellow Transparent for Illinois and Indiana. The scattering varieties are Chenango, Benoni, Maiden Blush, Salome, Winesap, Ben Davis and Willow for Illinois; Delicious and Winesap for Indiana; Fameuse, Wagener, McIntosh, Red Canada, Rhode Island Greening and Northern Spy for Michigan; and Wealthy, McIntosh, Northwestern Greening and Wolf River for the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Winesap, Jonathan and Yellow Transparent are the only varieties recommended for each of the group of states including Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas. Stayman Winesap and Grimes Golden are approved for Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas; York Imperial and Wealthy for Kansas and Missouri; and Delicious for Kansas and Arkansas. The scattering varieties are Rome Beauty, Gano and Oldenburg for Missouri; and Collins, Ben Davis, Maiden Blush, Williams, Liveland and Early Harvest for Arkansas.

[The text on this page is extremely faint and illegible. It appears to be a continuous block of text, possibly a letter or a page from a book, but the characters and words cannot be discerned.]

Minnesota, Wisconsin and northern Iowa cover a section requiring hardy varieties. Wealthy and Northwestern Greening are the only varieties mentioned for all three states. Besides these two varieties Brilliant, Tolman and Oldenburg are recommended for northern Iowa; McIntosh and Fameuse for Wisconsin; and Charlamoff and Patten, and, in favored locations, McIntosh, for Minnesota.

Oldenburg, Jonathan and Grimes Golden are favored for central and southern Iowa and for Nebraska. Wealthy is recommended for central Iowa and Nebraska; Winesap and Delicious for southern Iowa and Nebraska; Fameuse and Northwestern Greening for central Iowa; Gano, Black Ben, Willow and Northwestern Greening for southern Iowa; and Stayman Winesap, Virginia Beauty, York Imperial and Missouri Pippin for Nebraska.

Jonathan and Rome Beauty are first choice in Utah, Colorado and New Mexico (Rome Beauty for high altitude in New Mexico). Other first choice varieties for Utah are Delicious, Gano and Banana. Second choice varieties for Colorado are Delicious, Grimes Golden and Winesap or Stayman Winesap; for Utah they are Stayman Winesap, Paragon, Arkansas Black, Grimes Golden, Rhode Island Greening and Northwestern Greening. At all altitudes in New Mexico, Stayman Winesap, Delicious, and Wilson Red June are recommended. Arkansas Black is suited to low altitudes and Rome Beauty, White Pearmain and McIntosh to the high altitudes.

The first choice for Washington is Winesap, Delicious and Banana. For Oregon it is Winesap, Delicious, Jonathan and Rome Beauty. The second choice in Washington is Jonathan in protected places, Esopus, Rome Beauty, Stayman Winesap, Black Ben and Yellow Newtown. In Oregon second choice is Arkansas Black, Paragon, Stayman Winesap and Banana. The first choice for Idaho is the same as for Oregon with Paragon added.

Approaching this variety question from another angle, that of the popularity of varieties, it is extremely interesting to know that of the 36 varieties listed more than once, Delicious is recommended in 27 out of the 35 states beginning in Maine and sweeping south to Georgia and across the continent to the Pacific. Stayman Winesap and Jonathan are next in popularity since they are recommended in 23 and 22 states, respectively. Baldwin is recommended in 9 states, McIntosh in 13, Northern Spy in 8, Wealthy, Rome Beauty and Grimes Golden in 18, Winesap in 20, Rhode Island Greening in 7, Oldenburg in 14, Banana in 5, York Imperial in 8 and doubtful in 1, Northwestern Greening in 6, Ben Davis in 4, and Black Ben and Gano in 3. Twenty-five varieties were mentioned only once, possibly some of these ought to be eliminated.

The selection of varieties to plant is a burning one and good judgment on this point spells success while a mistake means disappointment and perhaps failure. Since no one knows what the future will demand in apple varieties we must necessarily be guided by the present trend of markets in recommending and planting varieties for the future.

It is believed that this information on apple varieties is the best information available at this time.

Field Trip - W. R. Beattie
Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Indiana
and Ohio.

Leaving Washington on the afternoon of November 4th, Mr. Beattie attended the Fourth Annual Kansas Potato Show at Kansas City, Kansas, on the 6th and 7th. "More and Better Spuds" is the motto of those who are promoting the Kansas Potato Show and each year there has been a steady and very marked increase in the interest and the quality of the products shown. Both the show and the program accompanying it are of an extension nature and have for their purpose the spread of information relative to better methods of growing potatoes and sweet potatoes. Improved seed and seed treatment have been the two important factors in the securing of increased yields in the Kaw Valley region, fertilizers not being used to any extent in the demonstrations. Northern certified and dry-land seed potatoes are being used largely by the growers. Improved sweet potato seed has been secured from New Jersey and its use supplemented by special cultural methods, has materially changed the type of sweet potato grown for the market in Kansas. Extension work with potatoes in the State of Kansas is handled mainly by the Extension Pathologist and the Extension Entomologist.

November 8th was spent in St. Louis County, Missouri, in company with Mr. Earl Page, Specialist, and County Agent J. R. Hansen, visiting the potato growers of the western part of the county and in holding an evening meeting of the general truck growers at Oakville in the southern part of the county. The potato growers of St. Louis County are planting certified seed potatoes and are using the hot formaldehyde treatment. The work of treating the seed potatoes is done at the car door as the potatoes are unloaded. A community treating tank is placed at the car door and live steam for heating the formaldehyde solution is supplied by a thresher engine which is hired for the day. As each grower drives to the car with his truck his consignment of potatoes is run through the treating tank and delivered to him. The county agent supervises the treatment and the labor is performed by three men who are hired by the growers. The entire cost of treatment is assessed proportionally and is usually about 5 cents a bushel.

November 10th was spent in southwestern Missouri in company with Mr. Page and Mr. R. L. Barrett, District Agent, going over the extension work being conducted by Mr. Barrett in the 5 southwestern counties of the State. In this section several crops are grown for delivery to local canning factories and the canning industry is expanding rapidly. The region also contains some of the best apple orchards in the State and a large acreage of grapes, blackberries and strawberries. In view of the fact that these 5 counties do not have county agents, Mr. Barrett is working directly with local cooperators.

November 11, 12 and 13, were spent with Mr. Claude Woolsey, Specialist in Arkansas, in visiting horticultural extension work around Bentonville, Rogers, Springdale, Fayetteville, Tontitown and Berryville all of which are in the fruit district of northwest Arkansas. The development of the grape industry in this section during recent years is of special interest. This work was started by a colony of Italians at Tontitown but has now extended over a wide territory. The varieties planted are Moore and Concord and the vines are trained according to the 4-arm Kniffin system using two No. 12 wires. Demonstrations are under way in pruning, use of fertilizers and spraying.



The fruit industry of northwest Arkansas has suffered heavy losses from insect and disease troubles during recent years. Winter spraying with the oil emulsion sprays is proving effective in the control of scale insects but full control of insects and diseases of the growing crops is not being secured. As a result there has been a large percentage of wormy and scabby fruit, especially in orchards that have not been given good care in the past. In this region one sees some remarkable examples of different methods of pruning, especially as regards the height of heading apple trees. One old orchard visited near Bentonville consists of apple trees which were headed from 6 to 8 feet high, but with low, spreading tops that bend toward the ground when loaded with fruit. Nearby is an orchard planted perhaps 15 years later and which was headed almost to the ground. At present the apple growers of this region are adopting a medium height for heading their trees and are pruning to a modified leader system.

In Indiana, the Student Horticultural Show was being staged at the time of my visit. Mr. Gaylord is devoting considerable time to extension work with potatoes. Certified seed is being planted very largely by the potato growers of the State and seed treatment is practiced. The production of can house tomatoes and other crops for the canneries is one of the main projects of the Indiana vegetable extension workers.

In Ohio, Mr. Glines is also devoting considerable time to potato seed certification, but has demonstration work under way with the general truckers around Cincinnati, Marietta, Zanesville and Columbus. The use of certified seed potatoes in Ohio has resulted in raising the general average yield of the State. Mr. Glines was busy getting material in shape for his annual report at the time of my visit. In this connection, he showed me a number of good photographs that he is going to include in his report.

Fruit, Vegetable and Landscape Extension Literature Received
During November, 1924.

New York - Cornell University, Ithaca

The Production and Marketing of Field Beans - Ext. Bul. 98 (Oct. 1924.)

Pennsylvania State College, State College

The Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables - Reprint Ext. Cir. 44 (June 1924)

Fertilizer Suggestions for Crops Under Pennsylvania Conditions -

Ext. Cir. 102, March, 1924.

Budding and Grafting - Ext. Cir. 103, May, 1924.

Celery - Leaflet No. 18, Feb. 1924.

Asparagus - Leaflet No. 19, Feb. 1924.

Onions - Leaflet No. 20, Feb. 1924.

Club Members Harvesting Potatoes - (Mimeographed) Nov. 1924.

South Dakota State College - State College

Field Selection of Seed Potatoes - Ext. Cir. 150, 1923.

Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, College Station

Citrus Culture in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas - B-66 (June, 1924.)

A Correction - In the November 1 "Extension Horticulturist" the Cornell University Ext. Bul. 95, Sept. 1924, listed thus - Growing pears for the Canning Factory - should be "Growing peas for the Canning Factory."

W. R. Beattie,

C. P. Close,

Extension Horticulturists.

